

Date **October 31, 2003**

Del Norte County Unified School District
Margaret Keating Elementary School
100 Minot Creek Road
Klamath, California

Notice of Proposed No Further Action related to petroleum discharges.
Comment Period ends December 3, 2003.

Site History: The Margaret Keating Elementary School is located at 100 Minot Creek Road, Klamath, California. One 1000-gallon diesel underground storage tank (UST) was removed in July 1993 by Beacon Construction of Fortuna, California. The UST cavity was excavated to 5 feet below ground surface (bgs). Three soil samples were collected from the North side at 5 feet bgs, South side at 5 feet bgs and West side at 4.5 feet bgs. Total Petroleum hydrocarbons as diesel (TPHd) was detected only in the West side sample (32 ug/g). One groundwater sample collected from the bottom of the UST cavity indicated TPHd at a concentration of 15,000 ug/L.

August 1994 Initial Subsurface Investigation: Eleven test pits were excavated. Soil contaminated with 3,800 ug/g and 280 ug/g TPHd was detected at 20 feet and 60 feet, respectively, away from the tank cavity. Groundwater contaminated with 1,000 ug/L and 390 ug/L Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons as gasoline (TPHg) was detected at 20 feet and 60 feet, respectively, from the tank cavity. TPHd at a concentration of 44,000 ug/L was detected in a groundwater sample collected 20 feet from the tank cavity.

July 1995 Investigation: Seven borings were installed to collect soil and groundwater samples. TPHd concentrations in soil samples ranged from non-detected to 490 ug/g. TPHg concentrations in groundwater ranged from non-detected to 29,000 ug/L. TPHd concentrations in groundwater ranged from non-detected to 140,000 ug/L.

June 2003 Investigation: Six hand borings were placed near or downgradient of previously installed boring locations to determine if the soil and/or groundwater plumes have migrated further or attenuated since the previous site investigation in 1995. The laboratory reported TPHd detected at a concentration of 1.5 ug/g in two soil samples. No other analytes were detected above the stated method reporting limits. No analytes were reported to be above the standard limits of detection for the groundwater samples.

Hydrogeology: The subject site is located in the mouth of the Minot Creek drainage. The Minot creek flows to the west and joins the High Prairie Creek which flows south to the Klamath River. The soil types encountered during the hand boring installation were silty clays. A gravel layer was encountered around 2.5 to 3 feet bgs. Soils were saturated from approximately 3.5 to 4 feet bgs. Based on previous investigations, groundwater flows southwest toward the Minot Creek and the Klamath floodplain.

Conclusion: More than ten years have passed since the primary source, the UST, was removed from the site. The July 2003 lab results show the concentrations of TPHd and TPHg in groundwater have decreased to below detection limits over the last eight years. Concentrations of TPHd, TPHg and total xylenes in soil, detected previously, have decreased to below or near detection limits. Petroleum hydrocarbon contamination in groundwater has attenuated and contaminant concentrations have reached water quality objectives for the site.

Proposed Action: Site is proposed for no further action.

MtBE Status: Lab analyses results of soil and groundwater samples collected in both July 1995 and June 2003 show no MtBE present.

Unless comments are received or new information is presented, Regional Water Board staff plan to concur with no further action upon conclusion of the comment period. Please contact Ron Allen by telephone at (707) 576-2848 or email at aller@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov for all issues concerning the Margaret Keating Elementary School site.